

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 13, 17, 21 and 26 are amended. Claims 1, 13, 17, 21 and 26 are independent.

In section 3 on pages 2-19, the Office Action rejects claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,885,635 to Haq et al, (hereinafter "Haq"). This rejection is respectively traversed for at least the following reasons.

Regarding claim 1, the claim of recites, "a control plane update agent module ... operable to synchronize said routing tables." With respect to the control plane update agent module, the Office Action relies on routing engine 201 and routing engine 202 depicted in Figure 2 of Haq. With respect to the function of synchronizing the routing tables recited in claim 1, the Office Action relies on bus 407 connecting processing component 205 and processing component 206 in Haq.

Accordingly, the function of bus 407 relied upon by the Office Action with respect to the function recited for the control plane update agent module in claim 1 is not a function that exists between the routing engine 201 and the routing engine 202, relied upon by the Office Action with respect to the control plane update agent module recited in claim 1.

In fact, as depicted in Figure 2 of Haq, the routing engine 201 and routing engine 202 communicate with redundancy controller 203. As also depicted in Figure 2 of Haq, and amplified in Figure 4 of Haq showing bus 407, processing component 205 communicates with processing component 206 through redundancy switch 207. Haq does not disclose, teach or suggest any direct communication between the routing engine 201 and routing engine 202 and

any of the components in packet forwarding engine 106. Likewise, no direct communication is depicted or described in Haq between processing component 205 and processing component 206 with any element in routing engine 105.

Claims 2-12 are allowable at least on their dependence from claim 1 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 1.

Claims 13, 17, 21 and 26 are amended to recite the function of the control plane update agent module also recited in claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13, 17, 21 and 26 are allowable for at least the reasons stated above in connection with claim 1. Claims 14-16, 18-20, 22-25 and 27-31 are allowable based at least on their dependence from claims 13, 17, 21 and 26, respectively, for at least the reasons stated above in connection with claims 13, 17, 21 and 26.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-31 as allegedly being unpatentable over Haq be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

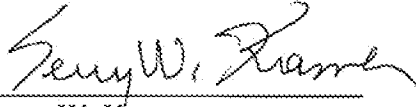
While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

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In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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